

Claims

We claim:

- Sub A
1. A container, comprising:
2 a first container portion;
4 a second container portion joined to the first container portion to define a
6 sealed cavity therebetween;
a coolant disposed within the cavity; and
pressure relief apparatus operable to limit pressure in the sealed cavity.
 2. The container of claim 1, wherein the pressure relief apparatus
2 comprises a thinned wall portion.
 3. The container of claim 1, wherein the pressure relief apparatus
2 comprises a valve.
 4. The container of claim 1, wherein the pressure relief apparatus
2 comprises an opening in one of the container portions.
 5. The container of claim 4, wherein a plug is disposed in the opening.
 6. The container of claim 1, wherein the pressure relief apparatus
2 comprises a joined section that joins the first and second container portions and
wherein the joined section ruptures in response to an elevated pressure in the sealed
4 cavity to limit pressure in the cavity.
 7. The container of claim 6, wherein the joined section includes a first
2 connection region that ruptures at a first pressure and a second connection region that
is rupturable at a second pressure greater than the first pressure.
- Sub B

A2 8. The container of claim 1, wherein the pressure relief apparatus
comprises a joined section that joins the first and second container portions and
wherein the joined section ruptures in response to an elevated temperature in the
4 sealed cavity to limit pressure in the cavity.

2 9. The container of claim 8, wherein the elevated temperature comprises
a first elevated temperature and wherein the joined section includes a first connection
region that ruptures at the first elevated temperature and the joined section further
4 includes a second connection region that is rupturable at a second elevated
temperature greater than the first elevated temperature.

2 10. The container of claim 1, wherein the coolant comprises a cross-linked
gel.

2 11. The container of claim 10, wherein the gel includes sodium
carboxymethylcellulose.

12. The container of claim 10, wherein the gel includes a preservative.

2 13. The container of claim 1, wherein the container is exposed to room
temperature and wherein the container is capable of maintaining items placed therein
within a range of temperatures below room temperature for a period of time.

2 14. The container of claim 13, wherein the range of temperatures is about
10°C to about 15.5°C and wherein the period of time is about 4 to about 6 hours.

10073549 03-1-02

SUB
AB

- 2 15. A container, comprising:
4 a first container portion;
a second container portion joined to the first container portion to define a
6 sealed cavity therebetween;
a coolant disposed within the cavity; and
a joined section that joins the first and second container portions wherein the
joined section is operable to limit pressure within the cavity.

B^R

SUB
AA

- 4 16. The container of claim 15, wherein the joined section includes a first
connection region that ruptures at a first elevated pressure to limit pressure within the
cavity and a second connection region that is rupturable at a second elevated pressure
greater than the first pressure.

- 2 17. The container of claim 15, wherein the joined section ruptures in
response to an elevated temperature.

- 2 18. The container of claim 17, wherein rupture results from mechanical
stress caused by the elevated temperature.

- 2 19. The container of claim 18, wherein the mechanical stress includes
cracking of the joined section.

- 2 20. The container of claim 17, wherein rupture results from melting of the
joined section caused by the elevated temperature.

- 2 21. The container of claim 15, wherein the joined section surrounds an
opening that is exposed to the cavity upon rupture of the joined section.

- 2 22. The container of claim 15, wherein the coolant comprises a cross-
linked gel.

2025-05-20 10:00:00

B¹

23. The container of claim 22, wherein the gel includes sodium
2 carboxymethylcellulose.

24. The container of claim 22, wherein the gel includes a preservative.

25. The container of claim 15, wherein the container is exposed to room
2 temperature and wherein the container is capable of maintaining items placed therein
within a range of temperatures below room temperature for a period of time.

26. The container of claim 25, wherein the range of temperatures is about
2 10°C to about 15.5°C and wherein the period of time is about 4 to about 6 hours.

27. The container of claim 15, wherein the first container portion further
2 comprises a first wall having a base portion and a first rim and wherein the second
container portion comprises a second wall having second rim and wherein the second
4 rim is joined to the first rim.

28. The container of claim 27, wherein the coolant comprises a cross-
2 linked gel.

29. The container of claim 28, wherein the second wall further comprises a
2 first raised portion joined to the base portion that is rupturable in response to a first
elevated pressure and a second raised portion joined to the base portion that is
4 rupturable at a second elevated pressure greater than the first elevated pressure.

40073559 524402

30. A container, comprising:
2 a first container portion having a first wall, a base portion and a first rim;
a second container portion having a second wall and a second rim wherein the
4 second rim is joined to the first rim, thereby defining a cavity between the container
portions;
6 a cross-linked gel disposed within the cavity;
a first raised portion integral with the second wall wherein the first raised
8 portion joins the second wall to the base portion and is rupturable in response to a first
elevated pressure; and
10 a second raised portion integral with the second wall wherein the second
raised portion joins the second wall to the base portion and is rupturable at a second
12 elevated pressure greater than the first elevated pressure.

31. The container of claim 32, wherein the gel includes sodium
2 carboxymethylcellulose.

32. The container of claim 32, wherein the gel includes a preservative.
2

33. The container of claim 32, wherein the container is exposed to room
2 temperature and wherein the container is capable of maintaining items placed therein
within a range of temperatures below room temperature for a period of time.

34. The container of claim 36, wherein the range of temperatures is about
2 10°C to about 15.5°C and wherein the period of time is about 4 to about 6 hours.

10073589 024 102